



Youngest Sarpanch of Madhya Pradesh

Why In News?

- In the recently concluded three-tier panchayat elections in Madhya Pradesh, 21-year-old Lakshika Dagar from Ujjain has won a landslide victory to become the youngest sarpanch (head of a village) of Madhya Pradesh.

Key Point

- Lakshika Dagar, 21, has achieved this distinction by winning the election from Chintaman Jawasiya gram panchayat of Ujjain district.
- Lakshika won the victory by defeating her rival candidate by 487 votes.
- Lakshika has worked as a radio jockey and news anchor in Ujjain after her Post Graduate Diploma in Mass Communication.
- It may be recalled that in order to establish democracy at the grassroots level, through the **73rd Constitution Amendment Act, 1992, the Panchayati Raj Institutions** were given constitutional status and entrusted with the task of rural development in the country.
- A three tier system of Panchayats has been introduced at village, intermediate (block/taluka/mandal) and district levels except in those States having a population of less than 20 lakh (Article **243B**).
- The seats at all levels are to be filled by direct election [Article **243C(2)**]
- There shall be an independent Election Commission in each State for superintendence, direction and control of electoral rolls (Article **243K**).